

04-08-05

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PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 03213616

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: application of:

Thomas Viebach and Fritz Pauker

Serial No.: 10/718,238

Filing Date: November 19, 2003

For: ENDOSCOPE HEAD

Group Art Unit: 3739

Examiner: UNKNOWN

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Date of Deposit: April 7, 2005

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By: Timothy Hubalik

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Commissioner for Patents
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for the above-captioned patent application are:

1. Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b);
2. Form PTO/SB/08A Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant with copies of references listed therein, and a foreign search report; and
3. Postcard acknowledging receipt of same.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this Response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,

By

David M. Thimmig
Attorney Reg. No. 36,034

Dated: April 7, 2005

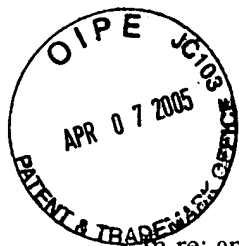
MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW LLP

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Chicago, IL 60690-2828

(312) 701-8593

Customer No. 26565



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, and therefore it is believed that no fee is due with this submission.

Copies of the listed documents are attached along with an a copy of a foreign search report.

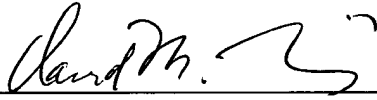
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed references are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed references do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such references.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

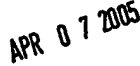
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
David M. Thimmig
Attorney Reg. No. 36,034

Dated: April 7, 2005

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Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	10/718,238
Filing Date	November 19, 2003
First Named Inventor	Thomas Viebach
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	03213616

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 02/056756 A2	07/25/2002	Petersen, Hanne		

Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.